

In the event of Destructive Weather



Destructive weather and its potential for loss of life, injury, and extensive property damage are always a concern.

The following tips will help keep you safe:

Tornado: Your organizations emergency plan or SOP should have identified a shelter on the lowest floor away from windows (some buildings may have sufficient protection based on the building structure and type of windows). Make yourself available for accountability. Contact your floor/area marshal warden for your specific tornado shelter information. For more information refer to TAB H in the RIA employee emergency guide.

Earthquake:

When the Shaking Starts: DROP to the ground, COVER yourself with a sturdy table or desk and HOLD on tight. If there is no sturdy furniture near by crouch in a near by inside corner, cover head and face with your arms. Stay away from outside walls, doors and windows. **STAY INDOORS UNTIL THE SHAKING STOPS.**

After the Shaking Stops: Get to a safe place outdoors following your organizations emergency plan or SOP. Assume there will be aftershocks. Listen to officials for instructions. If you smell gas notify the 9-1-1 dispatcher. **If you know how to shut it off do it. BUT REMEMBER:** Only a professional should turn it back on. Contact your floor/area marshal warden for your specific earthquake procedures. For more information refer to TAB I in the RIA employee emergency guide.

Flood: Avoid moving water. If you have to walk in water, walk where the water is not moving. Use a stick to check the firmness of the ground in front of you. Stay out of any building if it is surrounded by flood water. Avoid driving in flood waters, a foot of water can float most vehicles including SUVs and Pickup trucks. Contact your floor/area marshal warden for your specific flood procedures. For more information refer to TAB I in the RIA employee emergency guide.

In the event of a Radiological Emergency



Exposure to radiation can occur from a nuclear explosion, an accident in a nuclear power plant, or a "dirty bomb" (conventional explosives packaged with radioactive materials).

In all cases:

- 1 **TIME:** Decrease the amount of time you spend near the source of radiation.
- 2 **DISTANCE:** Increase your distance from the source.
- 3 **SHIELDING:** Increase the shielding between you and the radiation. Shielding can be anything. Depending on the level of radioactive materials used-a plate glass window to several feet of concrete- can create a protective barrier between you and the radiation source. It will be very important to listen for emergency information about the level and location of the source of radiation.

In the event of a Chemical Emergency

Chemical agents are poisonous gases, liquids or solids that can cause injury, illness and death. Chemical emergencies can be caused by industrial accidents, or through the intentional release of harmful chemicals.

Protection from chemical agents varies. Either **SHELTER-IN-PLACE** or **EVACUATION** orders may be given to provide protection. Local authorities will give these orders only when necessary. Gas masks and protective clothing may help in some instances, but cannot protect you from contaminated food or water. However, not all such gear sold today is suitable for protection. Learn before you buy.

In the event of a Biological Emergency



Biological agents are bacteria and toxins that can cause disease in people.

Protection during a biological event depends on the agent being used.

For example, anthrax can only affect people who come into direct contact with it and cannot be passed on from person to person. However, Smallpox is highly contagious and would require isolating people who have been exposed. For some biological events, immunizations may be recommended prior if there is a good chance a certain agent will be used, in others antibiotics will be prescribed once a release has occurred. In response to an ongoing biological event, local authorities may give orders for **SHELTER IN PLACE** (taking refuge in a small, interior room with few or no windows) or **EVACUATION**.

Decontamination after a CBRNE incident

Most CBRN agents are decontaminated using the same procedures. First off it is of the utmost importance that you stay calm so you can think clearly. It is important to know that removing your clothes as quickly as possible will eliminate 80-90% of the contamination.

Once you have removed your clothing you will want to put them in a sealed plastic bag so the contamination does not spread. The MABAS 43 Haz-Mat team will provide decontamination for employees at the Rock Island Arsenal. The Haz-Mat team will direct victims to remove their clothing and shower with the equipment they provide. The first decontamination you may go through will be a gross decontamination which is merely passing through a spray of water from a fire hose or something similar. This will remove the bulk of the contamination. Some agents may require a bleach and water solution while others may just be soap and water. This will be administered using a decontamination vehicle or tent with shower heads and spray wands. Listen to the emergency officials for instructions on how you should proceed. Once you are completed you will be checked to make sure the contamination has been removed and to see if you exhibit any symptoms of exposure. You will be sent to a

How to get information in an Emergency

Local radio and television stations will provide information in the event of a major emergency. A NOAA Weather radio is a good source of weather related emergencies and will give sufficient warning in the event you need to shelter.

In some instances, the Emergency Alert System may be activated. Specific emergency instructions will be broadcast by:

RADIO
FM 103.7 WLLR
AM 1420± WOC

TELEVISION
WHBF Channel 4
KWQC Channel 6
WQAD Channel 8

Emergency instructions will provide information on whether to evacuate or shelter in place. If you are ordered to evacuate, the radio announcements will also advise you on the safest place to go.

What NOT TO DO in an Emergency

Do NOT go to the hospital except in the case of a medical emergency.

Do NOT light matches or turn electrical switches on or off if you smell gas or think there may be a leak. It is safe to use a flashlight. Also **Do NOT** use a regular phone. Cell phones are safe to use.

Do NOT turn off any utilities unless you have been told to by emergency authorities - or unless you know there has been some damage to gas pipes, water pipes or electrical lines.

Do NOT drive your vehicle unless you have been advised to evacuate or you have a medical emergency. Be sure to check on road conditions or travel restrictions.

Do NOT call 9-1-1 except in the case of